

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): System for access, exchange, analysis and design of information relating to industrial plants having a substantial complexity, the system comprising:

- a client-server software architecture

- at least a set of mutually connected computers containing the information, and adapted to function as a server computer; and

- at least a web-based client computer functioning as a user station to enable the user to access the information,

wherein the system deploys an interactive application is adapted to create a virtual reality for the user on the client computer representing the premises of said industrial plant and that wherein access to the information is obtained through objects in said virtual reality which bear a relation to the information,

wherein the application comprises a photo-realistic virtual reality model, creating an environment in which the user is able to dynamically interact with the objects in a 3D space;

wherein databases with the information are coupled to the objects using a direct-manipulation interface allowing the user to identify, select, navigate and manipulate the objects of the model, wherein the virtual object is used as an intuitive visual access interface to the information concerning the object;

wherein the client-server software architecture provides a near real-time interaction of the user with the virtual reality.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 1 wherein the system is adapted to represent a user through the figure of a human being.

Claim 5 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the virtual reality representation, information access points are represented and the information access points give access to information of the kind obtainable at the information access points in real life which are represented.

Claim 6 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 4 further comprising more than one client computer, wherein the users of each client computer are represented by the figure of a human being and the users communicate and exchange information by transfer of data.

Claim 7 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 6 wherein the system comprises means to make appointments between users.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): System as claimed in claim 7 wherein the system is adapted to access the database and provide technical information relating to said object clicked upon.

Claim 10 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 8 wherein the technical information comprises technical drawings.

Claim 11 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 1 wherein the virtual reality representation allows the user objects in said industrial plant to take apart to pieces and to reassemble to simulate maintenance and repair actions.

Claim 12 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 11 wherein the system comprises reference data relating to the actions and the system is adapted to compare the actions executed by the client with the reference data and to report about the rate of coherence between the executed actions and the actions of which the system contains reference data.

Claim 13 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 1 wherein the system is adapted to enable a user to design and draw conduits between the objects in the industrial site wherein the conduits are represented in the virtual reality representation of the industrial plant and the conduits can be automatically and interactively positioned.

Claim 14 (currently amended): System as claimed in claim 13 wherein the design module is adapted to ~~give~~ automatically determine a preferred routing of conduits without the need for human intervention.

Claim 15 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 13 wherein the design module is adapted to automatically detect conflicts and to provide solutions therefore.

Claim 16 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 1 wherein the system is adapted to enable the user to design the locations of the objects of the industrial plant, their interrelations, and locations of conduits connected to said objects, wherein during the design procedure the designed objects are represented in the virtual reality representation.

Claim 17 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 16 wherein the technical information of the objects is retrieved through databases contained in a computer of the set of computers.

Claim 18 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 2 wherein the system is adapted to enable the user to design the locations of the objects of the industrial plant, their interrelations, and locations of conduits connected to said objects, wherein during the design procedure the designed objects are represented in the virtual reality representation.

Claim 19 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 3 wherein the system is adapted to enable the user to design the locations of the objects of the industrial plant, their interrelations, and locations of conduits connected to said objects, wherein during the design procedure the designed objects are represented in the virtual reality representation.

Claim 20 (previously presented): System as claimed in claim 4 wherein the system is adapted to enable the user to design the locations of the objects of the industrial plant, their interrelations, and locations of conduits connected to said objects, wherein during the design procedure the designed objects are represented in the virtual reality representation.